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GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
Governor's Office of Homeland Security
and
Emergency Preparedness

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RELEASE

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STATE ASSISTS CARENCRO WITH FLASH FLOODING *Lafayette Parish Declares State of Emergency*

Baton Rouge, LA (March 12, 2012) – The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP), Louisiana National Guard (LANG), Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), Louisiana State Police (LSP) and the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) are assisting the City of Carencro after flash flooding impacted the area Monday morning.

Lafayette Parish has declared a State of Emergency and GOHSEP has personnel on the scene to assist with coordinating resources that are needed.

"We are working with local officials to ensure they get the resources and support they need to respond to the flooding," said GOHSEP Director Kevin Davis. "We urge residents to be mindful that there is more rain forecasted and to take precautionary measures."

State Efforts in Responding to Flooding :

Louisiana National Guard (LANG)

- Providing four high water vehicles to assist in search and rescue operations.

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF)

- Providing ten flat bottom and shallow water boats and 12 agents who are working with local first responder agencies in search and rescue efforts.
- Three additional agents and three more boats are en route.

Louisiana State Police (LSP)

- 30 troopers are dedicated to the rescue efforts and ten people have been rescued from stranded vehicles.
- Monitoring roads and bridges and redirecting traffic in areas where roads are closed.
- State Police Air Support has fixed wing aircraft and helicopters positioned to support the efforts as the weather conditions allow.
- LSP Incident Command Center is established at Troop-I in Lafayette.

Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD)

- Deployed high water signs where roads are closed due to the flooding.
- Removing trees and debris from state roadways.
- District-wide maintenance services are engaged in flood fighting activities with approximately 30 staff members.
- Maintenance crews, along with LSP, are monitoring state roads and bridges.
- Road closures include:
 - Interstate-49 from Lafayette to Opelousas is closed.
 - University Avenue is closed at La. 723 in Lafayette Parish due to flooding.
 - La. 347 (Grand Point Road) in St. Martin Parish is being closed from La. 328 to Doyle Melancon Road.
 - La. 726 in Lafayette Parish is closed due to flooding.
 - La. 93 in St. Landry Parish is also closed due to flooding.

American Red Cross (ARC)

- At Incident Command Center and determining a site for a reception center for those rescued.

For more information on safety tips, go to www.getagameplan.org.

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